

Message Text

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TAGS: PINT IT
SUBJECT: BERLINGUER ADDRESSES THE 21ST NATIONAL CONGRESS OF
THE COMMUNIST YOUTH FEDERATION

1. PCI NATIONAL SECRETARY ENRICO BERLINGUER ADDRESSED THE
21ST NATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATION OF ITALIAN COMMUNISTS
(FGCI) ON ITS LAST DAY. THE CONGRESS WAS HELD APRIL 20-23
AT THE PALACE OF CONGRESSES IN FLORENCE. IN HIS SPEECH
BERLINGUER STATED THAT DEMOCRACY IS IN DANGER IN ITALY AND
THE ITALIAN YOUTH SHOULD MOBILIZE AND CONTRIBUTE TO SAVE IT,
BECAUSE DEMOCRACY IS THE SUPREME GOOD AND IF ONE LOSES IT ONE
LOSES EVERYTHING. FOR THIS REASON BERLINGUER SAID THAT THE
GOVERNMENT SHOULD IN NO CASE DEAL WITH THE RED BRIGADES. HE
EXPLAINED THAT TO GRANT THE REQUEST OF THE RED BRIGADES TO
RELEASE SOME OF THEIR MEMBERS WHO ARE ALREADY IN JAIL, WOULD
LEAD TO A COMPLETE DISBELIEF IN THE 'CERTAINTY OF JUSTICE'
AND, EVENTUALLY, TO CIVIL WAR.

2. THE 21ST NATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE FGCI HAD STARTED ON
APRIL 20 WITH THE SPEECH DELIVERED BY FGCI NATIONAL SECRETARY
MASSIMO D ALEMA. D ALEMA AGAIN LAUNCHED THE PROPOSAL TO ALL
'DEMOCRATIC' PARTIES TO FORM A UNIFIED MOVEMENT OF THE YOUNG
WHICH SHOULD 'SAVE AND RENEW THE SCHOOL SYSTEM, CONQUER NEW
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JOBS, AND MAKE THE YOUNG THEPROTAGONISTS OF THE ITALIAN
DEMOCRACY'. THIS PROPOSAL WAS AGAIN ALMOST IMMEDIATELY
REJECTED BY YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LIBERALS, SOCIALISTS,
CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS, AND SOCIAL DEMOCRATS, WHILE THE LEADERS OF
THE YOUNG REPUBLICANS SHOWED SOME INTEREST.

3. THE PROPOSAL TO ATTEMPT TOFORM A NEW UNIFIED MOVEMENT OF

THE YOUNG WAS AT THE CENTER OF THE CONGRESS DEBATE BUT NO DECISION WAS TAKEN. OTHER PROBLEMS DISCUSSED DURING THE FOUR-DAY LONG MEETING WERE YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT, DEVELOPMENT OF THE MEZZOGIORNO, THE LABOR MARKET, TERRORISM, AND PCI-FGCI RELATIONS.

4. IN HIS REPORT ON THE SITUATION OF FGCI MEMBERSHIP, D ALEMA REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THERE WAS A CONSIDERABLE DECREASE OF FGCI MEMBERS IN 1977 AS COMPARED WITH 1976. MEMBERSHIP TOTALED 128,000 IN 1977 AND 143,000 IN 1976.

5. THE CONGRESS ELECTED THE NEW 38 MEMBERS OF FGCI NATIONAL DIRECTORATE AND REELECTED MASSIMI D ALEMA AS ITS NATIONAL SECRETARY.
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